

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EA-09 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 FMC-02 INR-07

NSAE-00 SAL-01 CG-00 DLOS-06 OES-06 AGRE-00 CEA-01

FRB-01 H-02 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSC-05 PA-02 AID-05

CIEP-02 SS-15 STR-04 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01

SP-02 FEAE-00 OMB-01 OIC-02 /163 W  
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R 090933Z NOV 76

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5824

INFO MTN DEL GENEVA 2193

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 3 BANGKOK 30808

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCON, ESCAP, TH

SUBJ: ESCAP: COMMITTEE ON TRADE, 20TH SESSION, NOVEMBER 2-8,  
1976, BANGKOK

DEPARTMENT PASS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND MARAD  
SUMMARY: WITH EXCEPTION OF PARTICIPATION BY SOCIALIST REPUBLIC  
OF VIETNAME (SRV), MEETING CONTAINED NO SURPRISES AND ATMOSPHERE  
CONGENIAL DESPITE SIGNIFICANT LDC DISSATISFACTION VOICED  
DURING MTN AND UNCTAD IV SEGMENTS. BANGKOK AGREEMENT (BA),  
ASIAN CLEARING UNION (ACU) AND ASIAN REINSURANCE CORPORATION  
(ARC) ALL GIVEN STRONG DEVELOPING MEMBERS SUPPORT, WITH SRI  
LANKA, THAILAND AND PHILIPPINES OFFERING CAPITALS AS HEADQUARTERS  
SITE FOR ARC. PRIMARY EMPHASIS PLACED ON TRADE PROMOTION  
ASSISTANCE, MARITIME MANPOWER DEVELOPMENT AND SHIPPER COUNCILS  
AS WELL AS BROAD RANGE OF AID TO LLDCS, ETC. PERHAPS INFLUENCED  
BY SOBERING UNDP REPRESENTATION ON RESOURCE AVAILABILITY,  
ONLY MAJOR NEW PROPOSALS WERE FOR AN ANNUAL MEETING WITH SECRE-  
TARIAT OF MEMBERS SENIOR TRADE PROMOTION OFFICIALS (PHILIPPINES)  
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AND FOR ESCAP DEVELOPMENT OF OVERALL BLUEPRINT FOR REGIONAL

TRADE AND PRODUCTION PROGRAMS (INDIA). BOTH SUGGESTIONS TAKEN UNDER CONSIDERATION BY SECRETARIAT, WITH POSSIBILITY OF DISCUSSION BY ESCAP PLENARY SESSION. REGARDING INDIVIDUAL DELEGATIONS AND REGIONAL GROUPINGS, BURMA MADE ONE OF INFREQUENT ESCAP APPEARANCES AND ANNOUNCED ITS DECISION TO JOIN THE ACU AND NEW EXPORT EXPANSION AND DIVERSIFICATION EFFORTS. ASEAN SPOKE WITH ONE VOICE (THAI) ONLY DURING MTN SEGMENT. EC REPRESENTATIVE (ROBERT HOLT, BRUSSELS) MADE MOST OF PRESENTATIONS FOR MEMBER STATES. USSR AND CMEA REPRESENTATIVES LIBERALLY SPRINKLED THEIR STATEMENTS WITH THINLY-VEILED WARNINGS FOR ESCAP DEVELOPING MEMBERS TO BUY MORE FROM AND GRANT MFN TREATMENT TO SOCIALIST COUNTRIES. REGIONAL LDC PRODUCERS OF TEXTILES (13) TO HOLD INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS ON MFA AND OTHER RESTRAINTS ON TEXTILE EXPORTS NOVEMBER 9-10, 1976 IN BANGKOK. END SUMMARY.

1. FIRST DAY AND A HALF DEVOTED TO OPENING CEREMONIES, FORMAL INAUGURATION OF ESCAP TPC TRADE INFORMATION SERVICE, ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND DISCUSSION OF RECENT TRENDS IN TRADE AND TRADE POLICIES. OPENING ADDRESSES DELIVERED BY SUTHEE NATVARATAT, THAI MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND ESCAP EXECUTIVE SECRETARY. IN HIS REMARKS, THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY ANNOUNCED AFGHANISTAN DECISION TO JOIN BA, STRESSED REGIONAL COLLECTIVE SELF RELIANCE AND URGED THE COMMITTEE TO BE HIGHLY PRAGMATIC AND SELECTIVE TO AVOID WORK PROGRAM DUPLICATION AND TO FOCUS ON ESSENTIAL ACTIVITIES. COMMITTEE OFFICERS WERE ELECTED FROM INDIA (CHAIRMAN), PHILIPPINES (VICE CHAIRMAN), NEW ZEALAND (VICE CHAIRMAN), NEPAL (RAPPORTEUR) AND BANGLADESH (CHAIRMAN OF DRAFTING AND TECHNICAL COMMITTEE).

2. STATEMENTS ON RECENT TRENDS IN TRADE AND TRADE POLICIES COVERED WIDE AREA INCLUDING MTN AND UNCTAD IV, CIEC, ETC. ESCAP DEVELOPING COUNTRY MEMBERS UNIFORMLY UNDERScoreD THEIR WORSENING DEBT, BOP, TRADE AND TERMS OF TRADE SITUATIONS AND CALLED FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE FRAMEWORK IN THE SHORT TERM. SOME ALSO EXPRESSED FEARS OF ANOTHER GLOBAL RECESSION AND ALLEGEDLY GROWING DC PROTECTIONISM. SLOW PACE OF OVERALL MTN, INADEQUACY OF DC OFFERS AND U.S. CONTRIBUTIONS REQUEST IN TROPICAL PRODUCTS GROUP (TPG) AND ONLY PARTIAL REALIZATION OF LDC OBJECTIVES IN UNCTAD IV WERE FREQUENTLY CITED.

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3. KOREA CALLED UPON DCS TO BASE TRADE POLICIES ON TRUE TERMS OF COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE AND ANNOUNCED READINESS TO TRADE WITH ALL COUNTRIES, INCLUDING THOSE WITH DIFFERENT POLITICAL PHILOSOPHIES. HONG KONG VIEWED THE MFA AND THE PRINCIPLE OF MFN AS KEY ISSUES, STATED ITS OPPOSITION TO RESTRICTING LDC TRADE BY ANY MEANS (MFA) AND CALLED FOR IMPROVEMENT OF GATT ARTICLE XIX IN MTN CONTEXT. PAKISTAN

EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER GROWTH IN DC PROTECTIVENESS AND CALLED UPON DCS TO SHIFT OUT OF UNCOMPETITIVE INDUSTRIES (E.G., TEXTILES). SRI LANKA CALLED FOR GREATER LDC COLLECTIVE SELF RELIANCE, NOT AS A GESTURE OF DEFIANCE BUT RATHER OUT OF FRUSTRATION AT SLOW PACE OF INTERNATIONAL PROGRESS.

4. INDIA SAW LDCS GREATEST NEEDS AS IMPROVEMENT IN THEIR TERMS OF TRADE AND INCREASED TRADE WITH NON-MARKET ECONOMIES AND PROPOSED ESCAP FOCUS ON DEVELOPMENT OF BLUEPRINTS FOR COMMONLY-IDENTIFIED PRODUCTION PROGRAMS AND TRADE POLICIES BASED ON QUOTE HARMONIZATION OF ECONOMIC COMPLEMENTARITIES. UNQUOTE NEPAL SUPPORTED THE INDIAN PROPOSAL FOR AN INTRA-REGIONAL TRADE BLUEPRINT AND SUGGESTED IT MIGHT INCLUDE A TRANSIT COST COMPENSATION ELEMENT FOR LLDCS. THE PHILIPPINES, NOTING THE ORIGINAL 1975 TARGET, HOPED THE MTN COULD FINISH BY 1977 AND ANNOUNCED IT WOULD COUNTER TO THE LIMIT OF ITS LEGAL AUTHORITY ANY HARSH DISCRIMINATION AGAINST ITS EXPORTS. INDONESIA DECRIED SLOW MTN PROGRESS AS WELL AS QUOTE MINIMAL UNQUOTE DC OFFERS IN TPG AND STATED THAT UNCTAD IV AND CIEC RESULTS SHOWED THAT DC COMMITMENTS TO ESTABLISH A NIEO WERE NOT TAKEN SERIOUSLY. IRAN, NOTING THAT OIL IS A FINITE RESOURCE, STATED THAT ALL DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, WHETHER PRODUCERS OF OIL OR OTHER COMMODITIES, SHOULD BE CLASSIFIED AS LDCS AND THUS RECEIVE GSP FROM ALL.

5. CMEA REPRESENTATIVE OPENED BY STATING THAT THE SERIOUS RECESSION IN THE CAPITALIST WORLD SERVED TO HEIGHTEN ITS CONTRADICTIONS AND TO HASTEN THE END OF THE OLD, OUT-MODED AND IN-EQUITABLE TRADE SYSTEM. NOTING THAT DETENTE IS BECOMING IRREVERSIBLE AND THUS HELPING THE WORLD COMMERCIAL CLIMATE, HE PLEDGED EXPANDED COOPERATION IN TECHNICAL, ECONOMIC AND TRADE AREAS ON THE BASIS OF 3-5-YEAR PLANS. HE CLOSED BY

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EA-09 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10

AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FRB-01

H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02

AID-05 CIEP-02 SS-15 STR-04 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-15

PRS-01 SP-02 FEAE-00 OMB-01 OIC-02 DOTE-00 FMC-02

SAL-01 CG-00 DLOS-06 OES-06 /163 W

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R 090933Z NOV 76

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5825

INFO MTN DEL GENEVA 2194

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PROJECTING QUOTE IMMENSE POSSIBILITIES UNQUOTE FOR INCREASED TRADE WITH ESCAP MEMBERS BUT STATED NEED FOR RECIPROCAL EFFORTS BY REGIONAL LDCS IN ACTIVELY STIMULATING PURCHASES FROM CMEA AND ACCORDING MFN TREATMENT TO SOCIALIST PRODUCTS. USSR, AFTER NOTING THAT DISARMAMENT REMAINS THE FIRST PRIORITY OF ALL COUNTRIES AND THAT THE HELSINKI MEETING LAID THE FOUNDATION FOR DETENTE, STATED THAT ITS NEGATIVE TRADE BALANCE WITH ESCAP MEMBERS COULD NOT BE CONSIDERED NORMAL AND THUS SOCIALIST COUNTRIES EXPECT LDCS TO SEARCH TO INCREASE THEIR PURCHASES AND TO STUDY SOCIALIST MARKETS. HE CLOSED BY REMARKING THAT, WHILE HIS COUNTRY WILL CONTINUE TO ASSIST ALL LDCS, QUOTE BETTER AND QUICKER COOPERATION UNQUOTE WILL GO TO THOSE ACCORDING TREATMENT EQUIVALENT TO THAT GIVEN CAPITALIST COUNTRIES.

THE SRV STATED IT WISHES TO BROADEN ITS COMMERCIAL RELATIONS WITH SOCIALIST AND OTHER COUNTRIES ON THE BASIS OF SOVEREIGNTY AND MUTUAL ADVANTAGE/RESPECT. IT CHARACTERIZED SRV POLICY FOR SOUTHEAST ASIA AS VIEWING ECONOMIC COOPERATION VERY HIGHLY, TO BE PURSUED UNDER A POLICY OF NON-AGGRESSION, EQUALITY AND UNCLASSIFIED

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REFUSAL TO ALLOW NATIONAL TERRITORIES TO BE USED AS A BASE OF AGGRESSION OR DIRECT OR INDIRECT INTERFERENCE. THE SRV ALSO CALLED FOR RENEWED EFFORTS TO REALIZE A NIEO.

6. JAPAN CITED ITS RECENT GSP IMPROVEMENT AS AN EXAMPLE OF ITS CONTINUING EFFORTS TO MEET LDC WISHES. THE JAPANESE REPRESENTATIVE ALSO STATED THAT, DESPITE A DIFFICULT ECONOMIC SITUATION, HIS COUNTRY WOULD DO THE UTMOST TO EXTEND ITS GSP BEYOND 1980 AND ALSO CONTINUE TO TRY HARD IN OTHER AREAS. THE EC REPRESENTATIVE REVIEWED THE IMPACT OF THE QUOTE WORST RECESSION IN DECADES, UNQUOTE NOTED A RECENT SLOWDOWN IN THE RATE OF EUROPEAN RECOVERY AND PROJECTED POSSIBLE CONTINUATION OF DIFFICULTIES IN CERTAIN SECTORS AND MEMBER STATES FOR 1977. HE STATED THAT, NEVERTHELESS, THE EC WILL CONTINUE ITS LDC COOPERATIVE EFFORTS, WILL NOT SLIP INTO ISOLATIONISM AND CONTINUES TO RECOGNIZE THE MUTUALITY OF INTEREST IN THE WORLD TRADING SYSTEM. AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND BOTH PAINTED

DIFFICULT DOMESTIC PICTURES BUT PLEDGED CONTINUED COOPERATION WITH LDCS. U.S. REPRESENTATIVE REVIEWED RECENT TRENDS IN DOMESTIC ECONOMY AND FOREIGN TRADE (OVERALL AND WITH ESCAP REGION), DESCRIBED RECENT TRADE POLICY ACTIONS AND ACTIVITIES BENEFITTING LDCS AND UNDERScoreD U.S. WILLINGNESS TO CONTINUE MEANINGFUL AND PRACTICAL DIALOGUE WITH LDCS.

7. MTN DEVELOPMENTS REVIEW WAS PREFACED BY SECRETARIAT REMARKS THAT, DUE TO 1976 DECREASE IN UNDP FUNDING, THE ESCAP MTN PROGRAM HAD BEEN DRASTICALLY CURTAILED, WITH MAJOR FOCUS OF REMAINING ACTIVITIES PLACED ON ASSISTANCE TO LDCS, ETC. GATT SECRETARIAT REPRESENTATIVE FROM GENEVA (SALEEM) THEN GAVE A REALISTIC AND VERY INFORMATIVE MTN PRESENTATION IN WHICH HE URGED, INTER ALIA, ADEQUATE SUPPORT IN LDC CAPITALS FOR THEIR MTN DELEGATIONS.

8. THAI REPRESENTATIVE, SPEAKING FOR ASEAN AS A WHOLE, EXPRESSED DISMAY AT EXCEEDINGLY SLOW MTN PROGRESS AND VOICED DOUBT THAT 1977 COMPLETION WAS POSSIBLE. NOTING THAT SINCE TIME OF HAVANA CHARTER LDCS WERE TRYING TO GET PREFERENCES ACCEPTED AS A LEGITIMATE INTERNATIONAL TRADE PRINCIPLE, HE WELCOMED THE NEW MTN FRAMEWORK IMPROVEMENT GROUP WHICH SHOULD INCORPORATE CONCEPT OF DIFFERENTIAL TREATMENT FOR LDCS INTO INTERNATIONAL TRADING RULES. (PAKISTAN AND ROK LATER CONCURRED).  
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ASEAN POSITIONS ON VARIOUS MTN ISSUES WERE STATED AS FOLLOWS:

TPG - DC OFFERS LARGELY INADEQUATE, INCLUDED GSP WHICH COULD NOT BE CONSIDERED AN OFFER IN STRICT MTN SENSE, AND IGNORED NTMS. ASEAN RESPONSE TO DC CONTRIBUTIONS REQUEST WAS TO ADHERE STRICTLY TO NON-RECIPROCITY CONCEPT IN TOKYO DECLARATION AND UNCTAD RESOLUTION 91 (IV). DESPITE SHORTCOMINGS, ALL DC OFFERS SHOULD BE IMPLEMENTED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, BUT THIS SHOULD NOT PRECLUDE QUOTE FURTHER PURSUIT OF OUTSTANDING PROBLEMS. UNQUOTE.

TARIFFS - NO PREFERENCE FOR ANY ONE FORMULA BUT FINAL FORMULA SHOULD APPLY TO ALL PRODUCTS, ELIMINATE ALL DUTIES OF FIVE PERCENT OR LESS AND HAVE S & D TREATMENT FOR LDCS.

CUSTOMS MATERS - NEW PRINCIPLES SHOULD NOT UNDULY CONFLICT WITH LDC ECONOMIC INTERESTS.

STANDARDS - LDC OBLIGATIONS SHOULD BE MINIMAL IN ANY CODE.

SAFEGUARDS - CONSIDERING U.S. PROPOSAL VERY CAREFULLY; A MULTILATERAL SURVEILLANCE BODY WOULD BE USEFUL AND ANY REVISIONS SHOULD INCLUDE S&D AND A STRICTER DEFINITION OF INJURY.

AG. AND SECTORS-SORELY NEEDED TO SPEED UP PROGRESS THROUGH CONVERGENCE OF DC VIEWS.

9. PAKISTAN REPRESENTATIVE COMMENTED THAT NOT ONLY WAS MTN PACE EXTREMELY SLOW BUT UNCTAD IV ATTEMPTS AT ENLIVENING PACE WERE SIDETRACKED BY CONSTANT REFERRAL OF PRESSING PROBLEMS TO MTN FORUM. HE THEN URGED THE COMMITTEE (UNSUCCESSFULLY) TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING DISSATISFACTION WITH THE DCS IN THE MTN AND URGING THEM TO BE MORE FORTHCOMING. USSR REPRESENTATIVE PICKED UP ON THIS UNCTAD REFERRAL AND STATED THAT UNCTAD SHOULD BE QUOTE ENERGIZED UNQUOTE TO CONSIDER ALL TRADE PROBLEMS WITH ALL COUNTRIES PARTICIPATING. BANGLADESH REPRESENTATIVE STATED HIS GOVERNMENT COULD HARDLY DISGUISE ITS SENSE OF FRUSTRATION AT SLOW MTN PACE AND ALSO EXPRESSED SURPRISE AT ONE DC'S REQUEST FOR TPG CONTRIBUTIONS WHICH HE TERMED A QUOTE VIOLATION OF THE SPIRIT OF THE TOKYO DECLARATION. UNQUOTE.

10. JAPAN STATED IT VIEWED ITS TPG OFFERS AS QUOTE MAXIMUM UNCLASSIFIED

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EFFORTS, UNQUOTE VIEWED TARIFFS AS HIGHEST PRIORITY AREA AND CONFIRMED ITS DETERMINATION TO MAKE FURTHER EFFORTS TO GAIN ADDITIONAL LDC BENEFITS IN MTN. EC REAFFIRMED ITS JANUARY 1, 1977 TPG OFFERS IMPLEMENTATION, AFTER WHICH EC WOULD QUOTE STILL BE OPEN FOR CONSULTATION UNQUOTE AND ALSO ANNOUNCED IT ENVISAGES EXTENSION OF ITS GSP BEYOND 1980. THE U.S. REPRESENTATIVE PRESENTED A REVIEW OF USG INITIATIVES IN THE MTN AS WELL AS POINTS OF CLARIFICATION REGARDING THE TEXT OF THE SECRETARIAT'S PAPER FOR THIS AGENDA ITEM.

1. UNCTAD IV FOLLOW-UP SEGMENT WAS INITIATED BY UNCTAD REPRESENTATIVE PRESENTATION. HE STATED THAT UNCTAD WAS GIVING PRIORITY TO THE COMMODITY NEGOTIATIONS, WHICH HE FORESAW AS DIFFICULT, AND NOTED THAT, SHOULD EFFORTS TOWARD AN INTEGRATED PROGRAM FOR COMMODITIES (IPC) FAIL, THE LDGS WILL GO AHEAD ALONE WITH RELIANCE ON THEIR OWN RESOURCES. ON THE MTN, HE STATED THAT UNCTAD UNDERSTANDS LDC FRUSTRATION AND THAT TRADE LIBERALIZATION LIKELY WOULD PLAY ONLY A SMALL ROLE FOR LDGS, GIVEN THEIR HUGE DEBT AND OTHER PROBLEMS.

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EA-09 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10

AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FRB-01

H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02

AID-05 CIEP-02 SS-15 STR-04 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-15

PRS-01 SP-02 FEAE-00 OMB-01 OIC-02 DOTE-00 FMC-02

SAL-01 CG-00 DLOS-06 OES-06 /163 W

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R 090933Z NOV 76

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5826

INFO MTN DEL GENEVA 2195

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REGARDING THE MFA, HE STATED THAT UNCTAD WAS HAPPY TO NOTE THE INFORMAL MEETING OF 13 ESCAP MEMBERS TO BE HELD NOVEMBER 9-10 IN BANGKOK AS A FOLLOW UP TO THE INITIAL CONSULTATIONS MAY 10-12 IN NAIROBI.

12. THE ENSUING STATEMENTS BY REGIONAL LDCS SHOWED UNANIMOUS SUPPORT FOR THE IPC IN PARTICQSAR. INDONESIA DECLARED THAT THE NEED FOR DC SUPPORT OF THE IPC COULD NOT BE STRESSED TOO STRONGLY. THE PHILIPPINE REPRESENTATIVE SECONDED THIS STATEMENT, ANNOUNCED A NEW U.S.\$500,000 GOP FUND FOR LLDC ASSISTANCE AND CALLED FOR UNCTAD TO BECOME THE PRIMARY WORLD TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT FORUM. THAILAND'S PARTICULAR INTERESTS WERE THE IPC, COOPERATION AMONG LDCS AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER, THE ROK EMPHASIZED DC IMPROVEMENTS OF GSP SCHEMES AND NEPAL CALLED FOR GREATER ESCAP ATTENTION TO LLDCS, ETC.

13. PAKISTAN, NOTING THAT A NUMBER OF MATTERS WERE UNRESOLVED BY UNCTAD IV AND THAT SOME DCS STILL OPPOSED THE IPC, STATED THE NEED FOR INTRA-LDC COOPERATION AND THIRD WORLD UNITY UNCLASSIFIED

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WERE GREATER THAN EVER, THUS SUPPORTING BHUTTO'S CALL FOR A THIRD WORLD SUMMIT. THE USSR STATED ITS QUOTE UNFLINCHING SUPPORT UNQUOTE FOR LDCS EFFORTS TO END QUOTE CAPITALIST EXPLOITATION UNQUOTE AND THAT IT VIEWED UNCTAD AS THE LEADING INTERNATIONAL TRADE BODY AND OPPOSED RESTRICTION OF ITS OVERVIEW ROLE FOR MATTERS UNDERWAY IN OTHER ORGANIZATIONS. JAPAN OBSERVED

THAT THE UNCTAD CONSENSUS SYMBOLIZES THE DC/LDC COMMITMENT TO DIALOGUE STARTED AT UNGA 7TH SS AND THAT ALL NATIONS MUST MAINTAIN A REALISTIC AND COOPERATIVE SPIRIT. THE ESCAP SECRETARIAT CLOSED THIS AGENDA SEGMENT BY NOTING THAT REGIONAL PROJECTS FOR UNDP FUNDING WOULD CONTINUE TO REFLECT UNCTAD IV RESOLUTIONS AND PRIORITIES.

14. DISCUSSION OF PROGRESS REPORTS ON VARIOUS ESCAP ACTIVITIES WAS PREFACED BY STATEMENTS BY VARIOUS SECRETARIAT PROJECT LEADERS AND UNDP REPRESENTATIVE. LATTER'S PRESENTATION MADE FOLLOWING POINTS: TRADE PROMOTION ASSISTANCE HIGH ON AGENDA FOR ESCAP REGION; UNDP ANTICIPATES BUDGET CEILING INCREASE FOR TRADE EXPANSION EFFORTS IF BA WORK PROGRAM FINALIZED; NO FURTHER UNDP ASSISTANCE PLANNED FOR ACU AND ARB, ONLY SMALL LEVEL FOR ARC; UNDP/UNCTAD/ESCAP MISSION LEAVING SOON TO VISIT LLDCS, ETC. TO VIEW PROGRESS TO DATE AND ASSESS FUTURE WORK PROGRAM NEEDS; CRASH TRADE PROMOTION PROGRAM FOR ISLAND COUNTRIES APPROVED BY UNDP BUT DEFERRED DUE TO FUNDING CONSTRAINTS; NO REGIONAL ADVISOR FOR TRADE FACILITATION PLANNED FOR 1977, WHILE FUNDING FOR SHIPPING PROPOSALS STILL UNDER CONSIDERATION.

15. PHILIPPINES REPRESENTATIVE URGED SECRETARIAT TO VIEW TRADE PROMOTION ACTIVITIES AS A WHOLE RATHER THAN AS SEPARATE PROGRAMS AND, TO FACILITATE BROAD VIEW, SUGGESTED PROVISION IN WORK PROGRAM FOR ANNUAL SECRETARIAT MEETING WITH MEMBERS' SENIOR EXPORT PROMOTION OFFICERS. BANGLADESH SUGGESTED TPC ESTABLISHMENT OF ADVISORY SERVICES ON EXPORT INCENTIVES AND RELATED LEGISLATION, WHILE NEPAL PUSHED FOR INCREASED EMPHASIS ON TPC ASSISTANCE TO INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS' NATIONAL TRADE PROMOTION ACTIVITIES. INDONESIA RECOMMENDED FUTURE DEVELOPMENT BY TPC OF INDIVIDUAL COUNTRY PROFILES OF PROMISING EXPORT MARKETS, TPC ADVANCED TRAINING FOR MEMBERS SENIOR OFFICIALS AND DEVELOPMENT OF STUDIES ON EXPORT PROCESSING ZONES. IRAN STATED HOPE THAT ACU WOULD DEVELOP INTO AN ASIAN RESERVE BANK, WHILE

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SRV STRESSED NEED FOR ACCESS OF LAND-LOCKED TO SEA AND CITED RECENT SRV-LAOS AGREEMENT AS A MODEL.

16. JAPAN EXPRESSED HOPE BA WOULD BE OUTWARD-LOOKING AND LOOKED FORWARD TO GATT EXAMINATION. SECRETARIAT INTERJECTED TO NOTE THAT STEPS HAVE BEEN TAKEN TO SUBMIT BA FORMALLY TO GATT. U.S. DEL COMMENDED SECRETARIAT'S ASSISTANCE TO LLDCS, LAND-LOCKED AND ISLAND STATES, CITED EXAMPLES FROM SECRETARY KISSINGER'S UNCTAD IV ADDRESS TO UNDERScore IMPORTANCE U.S. ATTACHES TO SUCH EFFORTS AND URGED INCREASED ESCAP ATTENTION TO SPECIAL DEVELOPMENT NEEDS OF EMERGING SOUTH PACIFIC COUNTRIES. SECRETARIAT CLOSED THIS SEGMENT BY STATING IT WAS TAKING NOTE OF MEMBERS' SUGGESTIONS IN EACH AREA.



17. SHIPPING AND RELATED MARINE TOPICS DISCUSSION LED OFF BY PRESENTATION OF SECRETARIAT PROJECT LEADER WHO EMPHASIZED ESCAP ROLE IN ASSISTING RE TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENTS, DIALOGUE BETWEEN SHIPPERS AND SHIP OWNERS AND IMPLEMENTATION OF UNCTAD IV RESOLUTION AFFECTING LLDCS, ETC. INDONESIA NOTED IMPORTANCE OF MANPOWER DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES, CITED FEDERATION OF ASEAN SHIPPERS COUNCILS AND URGED SECRETARIAT TO PROMOTE SIMILAR REGIONAL SUBGROUPINGS. THE ROK DEL EMPHASIZED IMPORTANCE OF ESCAP EFFORTS IN ACTIVITIES AIDING LDC STRUGGLE AGAINST DISCRIMINATORY SHIPPING AND OCEAN FREIGHT RATES, ANNOUNCED SCHEDULED EARLY 1977 OPENING OF PUSAN TRAINING CENTER AND SOLICITED A TRAINING SHIP AND ADVANCED TEACHING AIDS AND EQUIPMENT FROM DCS AND INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES. IRAN URGED ESCAP ESTABLISHMENT OF A PORT CONGESTION PROJECT, WHILE SRI LANKA ANNOUNCED ITS CENTRAL FREIGHT BUREAU WILL ACCEPT TRAINEES FROM ESCAP REGION.

18. INDIA URGED ADDITIONAL ESCAP ASSISTANCE IN AREAS OF MANPOWER DEVELOPMENT, PROGRAMS TO OVERCOME QUOTE INADEQUACY UNQUOTE OF SHIPPERS INFORMATION ON FREIGHT RATES AND SURCHARGES, SHIPPERS COUNCILS AND FREIGHT RATE UNITS, AND DREDGING. USSR SUGGESTED SECRETARIAT MIGHT GIVE INCREASED ATTENTION TO FREIGHT FORWARDERS ROLE IN EXPORTING. U.S. DEL INFORMALLY ADVISED SECRETARIAT OF LATEST USG THINKING IN FIELD OF AUTOMATED SYSTEMS OF CARGO DATA INTERCHANGE AND PROVIDED COPY OF SEPTEMBER 30, 1976 A/S DOT SPEECH TO ESCAP SHIPPING AND PORTS STAFF CHIEF.

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19. WORK PROGRAM AND PRIORITIES AGENDA ITEM INTRODUCED BY SECRETARIAT DIVISION CHIEF WHO NOTED THAT 1976/77 PROGRAM BASICALLY THE SAME AS APPROVED BY TC AND ESCAP PLENARY AT LAST SESSIONS; CHANGES TAKE INTO ACCOUNT RECOMMENDATION OF ESCAP PLENARY TO STREAMLINE WORK PROGRAM AND THAT 1978-79 PLANS WERE BASICALLY EXTENSION OF THE SHORT TERM WORK PROGRAM. REITERATION OF PROPOSED NEW PROJECTS FOR ANNUAL SENIOR EXPORT PROMOTION OFFICIALS MEETING WITH SECRETARIAT (PHILIPPINES) AND DEVELOPMENT OF REGIONAL TRADE AND PRODUCTION BLUEPRINTS BY ESCAP (INDIA) LED SECRETARIAT TO STATE THAT BOTH SUGGESTIONS TO BE TAKEN UNDER CONSIDERATION, WITH POSSIBILITY OF REVIEW BY ESCAP PLENARY.

20. DATE OF 21ST COMMITTEE SESSION LEFT TO DISCRETION OF EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, WITH AGENDA IDENTICAL TO CURRENT SESSION PENDING ESCAP PLENARY DECISION ON NEW TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR SHIPPING, TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE. TC REPORT REVIEWED AND APPROVED WITH MINOR MODIFICATIONS DURING LAST WORKING DAY.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 09 NOV 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
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**Disposition Comment:**  
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Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
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